

15 August 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Working Group on Foreign Language Documents under
 EIC Sub-Committee

STATINTL

1. The stated task of the current working group on foreign language documents is "to determine how best use can be made of available foreign language documents." According to the findings and the recommendations in July 1949 of the Inter-departmental Ad Hoc Committee on Exploitation of Foreign Documents, and according to the record of CIA and other IAC requirements served on FDD, this group's purpose of how available foreign documents can be best used is closely related to, if not identical with FDD's 5-year old assignment and experience. Therefore it would seem that the interest of this group could be more effectively promoted by FDD membership. This would enable the framers of any plan to draw from FDD's experience (if such a plan is to be different from that of the 1949 committee).

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2. Instead of mentioning to [redacted] the matter of FDD representation (a question with which [redacted] is familiar), and since membership may not be desirable from FDD's own standpoint according to [redacted] verbally this date I asked the group's chairman, [redacted] of ORR, to keep [redacted] Office current on the findings of meetings subsequent to that held on 14 August (this in view of the similarity between FDD's assignment and the purpose of the working group under [redacted] EIC Sub-Committee).

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3. [redacted] said he not only will gladly comply with the request 2 above by sending minutes of later meetings to this Office, but also will keep OO current on his following plan of action:

a. Member Agencies' draft papers on "how foreign language materials can be best utilized" are to be submitted to the Group's Chairman by 25 August 1952.

b. Based on these papers, a. above, [redacted] draft proposal will be forwarded to OO and other interested Office/s, "also to PPO's, etc." by 5 September for comments.

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c. Next group's meeting, after 5 September, is to discuss the draft, b. above, revised in consideration of comments given by its recipients.

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4. Since [redacted] stated that his Group will not be concerned with the "mechanics" of how the materials are brought to the consuming analysts (the 14 August meeting was mostly devoted to just that), it is difficult to foresee how findings can result from this effort different or more advantageous than the recommendations finally made after 5 months' thorough study by the Inter-departmental Ad Hoc Committee on Foreign Documents in July 1949.

STATINTL

cc: Acting Chief, FDD